

Preserving Our Living Legacy

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Special Features
for BC Parks



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Foreword

BC Parks began inviting all British Columbians to participate in shaping a future for their provincial parks system in 1988, when it released a draft policy paper which became *Striking The Balance* — the first formal statement of public policy ever produced by BC Parks. Its purpose was to further public understanding by clearly stating BC Parks goals and management principles.

That commitment to a public-participation process continues with Special Features For BC Parks, a draft report which provides a rational method for achieving the conservation goal of protecting B.C.'s most outstanding features. Like the draft paper which became *Striking The Balance*, this report is a preliminary document intended to inform the public and encourage discussion and comment.

After considering and responding to public input, appropriate changes will be made before this report is formally incorporated into an overall plan to guide the future of the BC Parks system.

The purpose of this report is to:

- ☐ Identify types of outstanding features in the province that BC Parks believes should be protected.
- ☐ Outline a process for completing an inventory of special features in the province. An initial survey of the special features protected in parks has been conducted, and examples of them will be used in this report.
- ☐ Provide a preliminary list and map of special features in British Columbia. It is emphasized that the features identified in this document are not park candidates. Rather, this is a list of some of the province's significant natural features.

BC Parks acknowledges Don Benn of Juan de Fuca Environmental Consultants for preparing the preliminary draft of this report.

Introduction

Within North America, British Columbia may have the greatest variety of natural features and landscapes. British Columbia boasts the nation's wettest climate, highest forest productivity, most complex marine coastline, and greatest number of distinct ecosystems.

One of the goals of the British Columbia Park System is "...to protect B.C.'s key recreation settings and most outstanding scenic features, so that the park system contains a wide selection of the best outdoor spots, features, wilderness areas — our highest peaks, our best beaches, our highest waterfalls, and our rarest wildlife..." (Striking The Balance).

To meet the above goals, several tasks have been identified by the Ministry of Parks as part of a special features program:

- ☐ Identify the types of features that should be included in the provincial park system.
- ☐ Establish criteria to identify and select features for inclusion in the park system.
- ☐ Outline a process for completing an inventory of the province's special features.
- ☐ Identify key features that meet the criteria both within and outside the present park system.
- ☐ Determine whether the features are protected. If not, they will be evaluated for inclusion in the park system.

Steps 1-3 are addressed in this document. A preliminary inventory and map of special features is included in Appendix 1. It is emphasized that the features identified are not park candidates. These features have been highlighted as being worthy of consideration. This document proposes a process for conducting a more thorough inventory of special features in British Columbia. This is a discussion paper to which modifications and additions are anticipated following review by the public, specialists, and park staff.

Selection Criteria

A very large number of feature categories are presented in this report. They would not all be given the same priority for inclusion in the park system. For instance, examples of certain features such as morainal deposits are so numerous in the province and the existing park system that little attention needs to be paid to them in any special-features program. On the other hand, shield volcanoes are a relatively scarce feature which have strong visual and educational appeal. Such features will be given relatively higher priority for inclusion in the park system.

The following factors are considered when special features are evaluated:

- ☐ Relative abundance in the province: relative scarcity and uniqueness of the feature; for example, well-developed fiords are only found in a few locations in the world and those in B.C. have world significance.

- ❑ Importance for recreation, education or visual resource:
 - recreation is considered to be the ability of a feature to provide opportunities for activities such as swimming, caving, boating, hiking, etc.
 - education and interpretation — the ability of features to provide opportunities for learning; examples include history, geologic processes, ecosystems.
 - viewing — the degree to which features contribute to scenic quality and provide landscape viewing opportunities.
- ❑ Significance for conservation:
 - vulnerability — the relative vulnerability of a feature to loss or degradation from human use, exploitation and impact.
 - scientific/conservation value — examples include rare or endangered species, sensitive ecosystems, archaeologic and historic features.

The priority of the special features program is to protect natural and cultural features of international, national, and provincial significance. Features of regional or local significance are of lesser priority for inclusion in the park system.

Description of Special Features

The following pages attempt to establish a comprehensive list and brief description of the categories of natural and cultural features that might be of interest to the Ministry of Parks for inclusion in the park system. Park names are included where features are already protected within a provincial or national park.

Three feature groups are recognized: physical features group; biological features group; cultural features group.

Physical Features Group

Eight general physical feature categories are identified: topographic, bedrock, surficial, aquatic, littoral, wetland, climatic, and miscellaneous physical features.

Topographic Features

Geographic Points of Interest

- ❑ **Watershed Boundaries** — boundaries denoting large-scale, often sub-continental, divisions.
- ❑ **Significant Headwaters** — the origins of major rivers.
- ❑ **Summits and Passes** — transportation corridors or routes through mountain passes.

- ❑ **Statistical Benchmarks** — features such as the highest mountains, the deepest lakes, the largest tidal lake, largest rivers, largest lakes, areas of greatest local relief, the longest fiord, etc. Examples: Mount Robson, Mount Robson Park; Golden Hinde, Strathcona Park.

Topographic Patterns

- ❑ **Local Topographic Patterns** — diverse patterns of topography, landform or landscape usually small in extent with local relief under 300 metres including: areas of low relief in an otherwise mountainous region; and hills or low mountains in an area of otherwise low relief. Example: alpine terrain, Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Park.
- ❑ **Regional Topographic Features** — a change in a pattern of topography which results in a dominant visual element in an area or region.

Bedrock Features

Consolidated rock features and structures. Bedrock features are presented under the three rock groups: igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic rocks. The greatest recreation significance will be attributed to various rock structures (volcanic landforms, karst topography, etc.) which have value for viewing, interpretation and certain recreational activities, i.e. caving, climbing, hiking.

Igneous Rocks

Igneous rocks are formed from the cooling of magma.

- ❑ **Intrusive Rocks** (Granitic Rocks) — include granite, syenite, diorite, gabbro.
- ❑ **Extrusive Rocks** (Basaltic Rocks) — include rhyolite, trachyte, andesite, basalt. See below for examples.

Igneous Rock Structures

- ❑ **Shield Volcano** — usually a very large-scale (several kilometres plus), broad, gently-sloping volcanic cone built chiefly of overlapping basaltic lava flows. Examples: Mount Edziza, Mount Edziza Park; Rainbow Range, Tweedsmuir Park; Flourmills, Wells Gray Park.
- ❑ **Volcanic Cone/Cinder Cone** — a conical-shaped accumulation of volcanic ash or cinder-like material around a volcanic vent. Examples: Black Tusk, Garibaldi Park; Mount Edziza, Mount Edziza Park.
- ❑ **Lava Flow** — extensive areas of lava deposits most noticeable around relatively recent volcanic activity. Examples: lava flows in vicinity of Garibaldi Mountain, Garibaldi Park.
- ❑ **Columnar Basalts** — old lava deposits displaying a columnar, often vertical form often at the edges of basaltic plains. Example: Tow Hill, Naikoon Park.
- ❑ **Pyroclastics** — volcanic materials explosively ejected from a volcanic vent. Example: Mount Edziza Park.

- ❑ **Batholiths and Stocks** — bodies of extrusive igneous rock; Batholiths are considered to be large, more than 100 square kilometres in extent, while stocks are the same but smaller. Examples: common throughout the Coast Mountains.
- ❑ **Sills** — sheets of intrusive igneous material forced between layers of stratified rock.
- ❑ **Laccolith** — lens-shaped intrusions which appear to be sills but they are found at the surface of the earth where they cause noticeable uplifting of over-laying rock.
- ❑ **Dikes** — small (a few centimetres) to large (several kilometres) igneous intrusions in cracks between rocks which may form dike-shaped, resistant rock ridges on the land's surface. Example: Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Park.
- ❑ **Tuyas** — lava deposits formed under glacier ice; almost all such examples in the world are found in Iceland; however, a few are found in Alaska and northern B.C.

Sedimentary Rocks

Rocks formed from the deposition of sediments by mechanical, chemical or organic processes.

- ❑ **Clastic Rocks** — include conglomerate, sandstone, siltstone and shales. Examples of conglomerate boulders and sandstone coastlines are common throughout the Gulf Islands; these can be relatively significant visual features where coastal erosion has created sea caves, unusual sculpturing, patterns and "galleries"; also see Littoral Features.
- ❑ **Organic and Chemical Rocks** — include deposits of limestone, coal and evaporates (salts). Example: coal deposits at Newcastle Island Park.

Sedimentary Structures

- ❑ **Bedding** — banding and interbedding of sedimentary rocks most often seen at large scale in major mountain areas such as the Rocky Mountains. Example: Folding Mountain, Muncho Lake Park.
- ❑ **Anticline** — convex or arch-shaped folds of bedded or layered rock, the strata dip outwards as found in concentric circles.
- ❑ **Syncline** — concave folds of bedded or layered rock; the strata dip inwards as found in concentric circles.
- ❑ **Fossil Deposits** — often associated with sedimentary rock structures. Examples: Driftwood Canyon Park, Kakwa Recreation Area, Mt. Assiniboine Park, St. Mary's Alpine Park.
- ❑ **Karst Terrain** — caves and sinkholes resulting from the weathering of limestone. Limestone caves vary in length, relief, configuration, variety of calcite deposits. Examples: Horne Lake Caves Park; Nakimu system, Glacier National Park (longest in B.C.); Arctomys, Mount Robson Park (deepest in B.C.); Karst Creek, Strathcona Park.

- ❑ **Weathered Shales** — areas where the weathering of shales causes “in situ” soil-forming processes.
- ❑ **Coal Deposits** — Example: Newcastle Island Park.

Metamorphic Rocks

Rocks formed from the alteration by heat, pressure or infiltration of sedimentary or igneous rocks.

- ❑ **Foliated Rocks** — include slate, phyllite, schist, gneiss and amphibolite.
Example: schists, Goldstream Park.
- ❑ **Non-foliated Rocks** — include hornfels, quartzite and marble.

Mineral Deposits

Mineral deposits include a variety of semi-precious stones, ore bodies and deposits, some of which have significance for interpretation, viewing and activities such as rock hounding and gold panning.

- ❑ **Jade** — semi-precious gem stone often found in the form of boulders. Example: common in several areas of British Columbia, such as Bridge River.
- ❑ **Gold** — opportunities for gold panning are often found in association with historic gold-bearing streams. Examples: the Fraser and Quesnel Rivers.
- ❑ **Marble Deposits** — Kakwa Recreation Area.
- ❑ **Agates** — Example: Rose Spit, Naikoon Park.
- ❑ **Other Minerals**

Miscellaneous Bedrock Structures

- ❑ **Canyon/Escarpments** — Medium to large-scale structural features usually modified and incised by the action of Pleistocene ice and water. Example: Stikine Canyon, Stikine River Recreation Area. (also see Fluvial Features.)
- ❑ **Tors** — rock spires or towers usually associated with non-glaciated terrain where soils have eroded away to expose more resistant rock outcropping. Example: Brooks Peninsula Recreation Area.
- ❑ **Cuestas** — structural bedrock plateaus with steep-sided faces. Example: found on Alberta Plateau in northeastern B.C.
- ❑ **Faults** — areas featuring a displacement of rock and terrain in the Earth's crust.
- ❑ **Palynological Features** — pollen deposits in a geologic context.
- ❑ **Natural Bridges and Arches**
- ❑ **Rock Colours** — Examples: Spectrum Range, Mt. Edziza Park; Rainbow Range, Tweedsmuir Park.

Surficial Features

Major landforms that have been created or greatly modified by the movement of ice and water over them. Surficial features provide major scenic and interpretive opportunities. As well, they influence the suitability of various lands for recreational activities, such as camping, picnicking and hiking.

- ❑ **U-Shaped Valleys** — a glaciated valley where ice scouring has left very steep sides and a rounded to flat valley bottom; the valley has a "U"-shaped cross-section.
- ❑ **Hanging Valleys** — a tributary valley whose floor is significantly higher than the adjoining main valley, often the result of valley glaciation of main valley before and after continental ice sheet glaciation.
- ❑ **Fiords** — similar to U-shaped valley except that the sea occupies the deep glacial trough. Examples: Mussel and Kynoch, Fiordland Recreation Area; Howe Sound, Porteau Cove Park.
- ❑ **Drumlins and Fluting** — elongated, rounded hills of glacial moraine shaped by the movement of ice over the ground. Example: Eskers Park.
- ❑ **Moraine and Till** — unsorted, unconsolidated material derived under the influence of Pleistocene ice cover. Examples: Eskers Park.
- ❑ **Striations (On Rock)** — grooves and striae on rock surface caused by the abrasion of rock-stone-sand-filled ice moving over the rock's surface.
- ❑ **Roche Moutonnee** — major rock surfaces sculpted and striated by moving ice.
- ❑ **Horn (Matterhorn)** — sharp, pyramid-shaped mountain peak produced by intense cirque erosion. Examples: Mount Ida, Kakwa Recreation Area; Mt. Assiniboine Park.
- ❑ **Cirque** — steep-walled depressions on the sides of mountains gouged out by ice erosion. Examples: very common throughout mountainous portions of B.C., especially on north-facing slopes.
- ❑ **Tarns** — small mountain lakes occupying cirques (cirque lakes).
- ❑ **Nunataks** — hills and summits surrounded by glacier and ice field. Examples: Llewellyn Glacier, Atlin Park, Bugaboo Spire, Bugaboo Glacier Recreation Area.

Pleistocene Glacio-Fluvial Features

Landforms created by meltwater during the waning of major Pleistocene ice masses.

- ❑ **Glacial Outwash** (plain or terrace) — stratified deposits (usually gravels and sands) from melting waters and streams during deglaciation. There are numerous outwash plains and terraces throughout B.C.
- ❑ **Glacial Delta** — stratified deposits (usually interbedded gravel, sands and silts) where major meltwater streams entered lakes or the ocean during deglaciation.
- ❑ **Kame and Kettle** — stratified deposits (usually coarse textured) formed at the edges and margins of melting ice. Kettles are "holes" left in glacial drift where ice blocks have melted after the surrounding drift was deposited.

- ❑ **Glacio-Lacustrine** — fine-textured sediments (usually silts and clays) settled out from old still-water bodies. Examples: South Thompson River, Paul Lake Park.
- ❑ **Raised Beaches** — evidence of old lake shores at elevations above valley floors.
- ❑ **Esker** — distinctive sinuous ridges, usually of stratified sands or gravels, formed by rivers and streams in close association with ice. Some of the largest esker complexes in western Canada are found northwest of Prince George. Examples: Boya Lake Park, Carp Lake Park, Eskers Park.
- ❑ **Meltwater Channel** — distinctive old river channels, often in outwash deposits, from waning ice lobes. There are numerous examples throughout B.C.
- ❑ **Crevasse Fillings** — usually a short, straight ridge of mixed materials initially deposited in an ice crevasse and subsequently deposited on the ground after the ice melted.

Fluvial Features

Landforms created by the action of water.

- ❑ **Floodplains** — there are several distinctive types of floodplains including: levied floodplains (naturally built-up ridges like dikes running parallel to the stream); braided floodplains (criss-crossing, shifting river channels); and oxbows and cut-off oxbows.
- ❑ **Delta** — formed where rivers enter water bodies such as lakes or the ocean; low gradient rivers have deltas often in association with estuary formations.
- ❑ **Fan** — fan-shaped deposits, similar to deltas but not entering still water, of sorted materials where stream gradient abruptly changes from relatively steep to relatively flat terrain or at the margins of lakes and where tributaries enter main valleys. Example: Muncho Lake Park.
- ❑ **Canyons and Gullies** — channels eroded by flowing water through unconsolidated or bedrock materials. Examples: Stikine River Recreation Area, Chasm Creek Park, Marble Canyon Park.
- ❑ **Hoodoo** — spectacular columns needle-like formations created by the differential erosion of horizontal strata of varying hardness. Examples: Wokkpash Recreation Area; Dutch Creek, Columbia Lake Park.
- ❑ **Marl** — calcium carbonate and clay deposits. They can give shallow lakes interesting colours. Example: Boya Lake Park.

Colluvial Features

Landforms created by the action of gravity.

- ❑ **Talus and Scree** — cone-shaped deposits of angular rocks on the sides and base of steep rocky areas where fragments continually slough off.
- ❑ **Landslide** — includes various forms of gravity-induced earth movement from abrupt landslide to slower-acting debris and mud flows and active colluvial fans.
- ❑ **Soil Creep** — areas where soils are moving slowly downslope over underlying parent material.

- ❑ **Avalanche Tract** — areas along mountain slides featuring repeated snow and ice slides.

Eolian Features

Landforms and soils resulting from the deposit of wind-blown materials.

- ❑ **Sand Dunes** — active or stabilized. Example: Rose Spit, Naikoon Park.
- ❑ **Loess** — windblown deposits of mainly homogeneous materials, usually silt or fine sands.
- ❑ **Ash** — windblown deposits of volcanic ash; often may suggest evidence of ancient volcanic eruptions.

Periglacial Features

Landforms created largely as a result of the action of frost and freeze-thaw processes.

- ❑ **Cryoturbation** — the process of frost heaving creating features, such as patterned ground, polygons, pingos and circles, steps and hummocks in alpine and northern areas with a cold climate.
- ❑ **Nivation** — process of freeze-thaw cycles at the margins of long-term snow deposits which erode features into the soil or surrounding rock. Example: Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Park.
- ❑ **Permafrost** — usually defined by the presence of sub-freezing soil conditions for a period in excess of two years.
- ❑ **Rock Glacier** — lobe-shaped accumulations of rocks and soil material in an ice matrix which appears to flow downhill off the mountain slopes. Example: Purcell Wilderness Conservancy.

Glacial Features

- ❑ **Ice Field** — extensive areas of permanent ice covering all but the highest peaks. Example: Conrad Icefields, Bugaboo Glacier Recreation Area.
- ❑ **Glacier** — ice tongues, cirque glaciers and hanging glaciers. Examples: Tachako; views from Tweedsmuir Park; Fortress Lake, Hamber Park; Chaos, Garibaldi; Kakwa Recreation Area.
- ❑ **Active Ice Erosion/Deposit** — areas of modern moraine deposition, ice erosion. Examples: found throughout the Coast Mountains at edges of glacial tongues.

Soil Features

One approach to categorizing soil features is to consider them by soil classification such as the Great Groups; Brunisol, Chernozem, Crysollic, Gleysolic, Luvisol, Organic, Podzol, Regosol and Solonetzic. Other features that should be considered include salt deposits around shallow lakes in the southern interior, features of soil moisture, drainage and cation exchange.

Aquatic Features

Water-oriented and shoreline features provide for a wide range of outdoor recreation opportunities.

Water Bodies

- ❑ **Lakes and Ponds** — factors include limnological characteristics, shape, configuration, seasonal fluctuations, depth, inflow, outflow, biologic productivity, type (oxbow, cirque, etc.). Examples: Bowron chain, Bowron Lake Park; Ootsa-Eutsuk, Tweedsmuir Park; system in Wells Gray Park, Shuswap Lake Marine Parks.
- ❑ **Rivers and Streams** — factors include turbidity, size, flow volumes, seasonal fluctuations, source (whether glacial, etc.), underground streams. Examples: Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness area; Atnarko River, Tweedsmuir Park.
- ❑ **Marine Waters** — factors include inter-tidal, sub-tidal, benthic zones, reefs, atolls, protected waters, open ocean (also see tides, surf currents). Examples: in Johnstone Strait — Desolation Sound Marine Park, Thurston Bay Marine Park, Octopus Island Marine Park, Rebecca Spit Park, Mansons Landing Park; in Gulf Islands — Ruckle Park, Princess Margret Marine Park, Isle-De-Lis Marine Park, Prior Centennial Park, Beaumont Marine Park, D'Arcy Island Park.
- ❑ **Harbours** — protected bays and anchorages. Factors to consider include depth, substrate materials, presence of fresh water, protection from prevailing winds. Examples: Maquinna Park; Gibson Marine Park, Princess Louisa Park.
- ❑ **Bathometric Features** — physical and/or biologic features related to the ocean floor, etc.
- ❑ **Self-Dumping Lakes** — lakes which empty as a result of periodic melting of glacier ice, etc.

Hydrologic Features

- ❑ **Tides and Currents** — includes tide rips, reversing tidal falls, interesting tidal currents. Examples: Kildidit Lagoon, Hakai Recreation Area; Skookumchuck Narrows, Blenkin Memorial Park; Active Pass, Bellhouse Park; Pitt Lake; Golden Ears Park.
- ❑ **Surf** — application to activities of surfing and viewing. Example: Long Beach, Pacific Rim National Park.
- ❑ **Waterfalls and Rapids** — factors to consider include height, water volume, permanence through year, whether single drop or series of cascades. Examples: Fulton, Red Bluff Park; Hunlen, Tweedsmuir; Sukunka Falls Park; Caribou River, Bowron Lakes Park; Majerus, Sundt, Dawson, Helmcken, Mahood, in Wells Gray Park; Fortress Lake, Hamber Park; Elk Falls Park; Lady and Della Falls, Strathcona Park; Englishman River Park; Brandywine Park; Nairn Falls Park; Spahats Creek Park; Stamp Falls Park.

- ❑ **Springs** — thermal (hot, warm, cold) and mineral springs; factors to consider include temperature, mineral content; flow rate, setting, predictability, interesting mineral deposits. Examples: Mt. Edziza Park; Liard River Hotsprings Park; Radium, Kootenay National Park; Carp Lake Park.
- ❑ **Water Colour** — attractive water colour. Examples: Boya Lake Park; Kakwa Lake, Kakwa Recreation Area; Green Lake Recreation Area; Kalamalka Lake Park.
- ❑ **Contrasting Waters** — areas where contrasting waters meet.

Littoral (shoreline) features are highly significant because of their relative scarcity in area and extent, extreme variability, high social values, extremely high biologic productivity and the fact that they are often threatened with various forms of human development.

Marine Littoral Features

- ❑ **Lagoons** — bodies of water usually separated from the ocean by a barrier, but connected to the sea by a narrow passageway which allows inflow and outflow of waters between the enclosed water and sea. Examples: Culpepper Lagoon, Fiordland Recreation Area; Kildidit, Hakai Recreation Area; Johnson Lagoon, Brooks Peninsula Recreation Area; Sidney Spit Marine Park.
- ❑ **Estuaries** — areas where fresh water sources (streams and rivers) meet saline, tidal waters and there is a formation of low gradient to level near-tidal land flats. Examples: Fiordland Recreation Area, Goldstream Park.
- ❑ **Intertidal Flats** — low gradient inter-tidal areas, usually with a fine-textured substrate which often features high productivity for invertebrate fauna and algae. Example: Botanical Beach Park.

Marine and Freshwater Littoral Features

- ❑ **Spit and Hook** — narrow beach deposits extending out into the open water. Examples: Rose Spit, Naikoon Park; Sidney Spit Marine Park; Sandy Island Marine Park.
- ❑ **Point** — triangular-shaped shoreline projection of beach materials into the open water.
- ❑ **Tombolo** — inter-connecting beach ridge(s) between a near-shore islet or rock and the shoreline. Example: Calvert Island, Hakai Recreation Area.
- ❑ **Beach** — a moderately sloping shoreline extending into the water. They are normally considered to be comprised of well-sorted granular materials such as sands, but also include areas with pebbles, cobbles, fine-textured materials or even bedrock.

Beaches are the focus of the most intensive recreation use and a very wide variety of recreation opportunities. Activities associated with beaches include bathing, swimming, sunbathing, paddling, camping, walking, gathering and collecting, viewing, recording, boating access, water skiing and picnicking.

From a recreation point of view, beaches can be grouped into two broad categories: warm-water beaches and cold-water beaches.

Warm-water beaches are associated with popular summer activities such as swimming and sunbathing. Factors of importance include water and air temperatures, water quality, size of water body, exposure to wind, sunlight and aspect, offshore currents, foreshore hazards and drop-offs, adjacent development potential (for camping and parking), physical access, barriers to the shoreline. Scarcity of warm-water beach opportunities in a regional context is an important consideration. Examples: Parrens Beach Park; Miracle Beach Park; Sandy Island Park; Tribune Bay Park; Rath Trevor Beach Park; various Shuswap Lake parks; Christie Memorial Park, Skaha Lake.

Cold-water beaches are associated more with walking, viewing, nature appreciation and hiking. Factors of human comfort and the high-use summer season are much less important. Factors of visual diversity, biological productivity and outdoor education opportunities are much more important than for warm-water beaches. Examples: Rose Spit, Naikoon Park; Hakai Recreation Area; Cape Scott Park; Flores Island, Gibson Marine Park; Long Beach, Pacific Rim National Park.

Miscellaneous Shoreline Features

- ☐ **Eroded Sandstone** — highly distinctive "galleries" associated with shorelines of sandstone.
- ☐ **Sea Cliffs** — steep, high deposits of unconsolidated materials along the ocean. Example: Komas Bluff, Fillongley Park.
- ☐ **Headlands** — jutting headlands and points along coastline.
- ☐ **Pocket Beaches** — small, usually steep, high energy beaches of coarse materials found between headlands and points.
- ☐ **Coastal Plain** — recently emerged sea bottom.

Wetland Features

Various wetlands provide biologically productive areas high in significance for nature study, outdoor education and wildlife viewing. Factors to consider include: water table level, fluctuations in water table, frequency and duration of inundations, water movement, amounts and types of organic material, vegetative structure, indicator plant species such as Sphagnum mosses, sedges, grasses, reeds, etc. Wetland features include fen, bog, marsh, swamp, muskeg.

Climatic Features

This is a possible feature category which might take account of arid regions, wettest sites in Canada and phenomena such as lightning, coldest and hottest sites, areas with greatest climatic extremes.

Miscellaneous Physical Features

- ☐ **Meteor Impact Sites**
- ☐ **Astronomic Phenomena**

Biologic Features

Biologic features include a wide range of significant recreation features. Major factors to consider in the review of biologic features are:

- conservation goals
- viewing and interpretive opportunities
- scientific and educational values
- accessibility
- species and community diversity
- scarcity of feature in province
- fragility of feature (carrying capacity)
- size and condition
- protection requirements
- suitability for recreation
- appropriateness for the management style of the park system.

Flora by Biogeoclimatic Zones

Special features will be evaluated within each biogeoclimatic zone, listed below.

- ☐ **Alpine Tundra**
- ☐ **Spruce-Willow-Birch**
- ☐ **Boreal White and Black Spruce**
- ☐ **Sub-Boreal Spruce**
- ☐ **Sub-Boreal Pine Spruce**
- ☐ **Mountain Hemlock**
- ☐ **Englemann Spruce-Subalpine Fir**
- ☐ **Montane Spruce**
- ☐ **Bunchgrass**
- ☐ **Ponderosa Pine**
- ☐ **Interior Douglas fir**
- ☐ **Coastal Douglas fir**
- ☐ **Interior Cedar-Hemlock**
- ☐ **Coastal Western Hemlock**

Vegetative features which provide significant opportunities for conservation, recreation and education include:

- ☐ **Alpine** — high elevation, treeless areas of cold and drought-resistant lichens, sedges, herbs and low shrubs. Examples: Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Park; Mt. Edziza Park; Quanchas and Rainbow Ranges, Tweedsmuir Park; Monkman Park; Strathcona Park; Garibaldi Park; Wells Gray Park; Manning Park; St.

Mary's Alpine Park; Monashee Park; Top of the World Park; Akamina-Kishinena Recreation Area; Mt. Assiniboine Park.

- ☐ **Subalpine** — high elevation areas open subalpine forest such as Krumholtz formations. Examples: see Alpine above.
- ☐ **Parkland Forest** — attractive, open stands of forest cover; Douglas-fir/arbutus communities in Dry Coastal Douglas-fir Zone; open Douglas-fir/ponderosa pine/western larch stands in Ponderosa Pine Zone; aspen/grassland communities in Sub-Boreal Spruce Zone.
- ☐ **Grassland** — common to the Bunchgrass Biogeoclimatic Zone. Examples: Douglas Lake-Kamloops, Monck Park, Lac Le Jeune; Kalamalka Lake Park.
- ☐ **Mature Forest** — include the best examples of old-growth forests from a variety of Biogeoclimatic Zones and Sub-zones. Spectacular examples are found associated with the Coastal Western Hemlock Zone. Examples: Brooks Peninsula Recreation Area; Cathedral Grove, MacMillan Park; Carmanah Pacific Park; Wolf and Puntledge river, Strathcona Park; Somalo Grove, Skagit Valley Recreation Area; Cathedral Park.
- ☐ **Successional Vegetation** — include burns, primary and secondary successions. Consideration should be given to edaphic and climatic climax examples. Example: Arbutus Grove, Davis Lake Park.
- ☐ **Halophytic Plants** — salt-loving plant communities most often associated with coastal estuaries.
- ☐ **Freshwater Aquatic Flora** — the most obvious examples are associated with shoreline areas and wetlands.
- ☐ **Marine Flora** — major examples include kelp beds, stands of eel grass and Fucus. Example: Cumsheewa Inlet, South Moresby National Park Reserve.
- ☐ **Plant Adaptations** — special plant species such as epiphytes, saprophytes and carnivorous plants (sundews). Example: Brooks Peninsula Recreation Area.
- ☐ **Introduced Species** — species which have successfully adapted to new environments and in some cases competed with native species to their exclusion. Example: Scotch broom found on Vancouver Island.

Fish and Wildlife

Wildlife includes birds, mammals, amphibians and reptiles. Special features will be evaluated within each ecoprovince, listed below. Ecoprovinces represent sub-continental level ecosystems. Nine are terrestrial and one is strictly marine.

- ☐ **Boreal Plains**
- ☐ **Coast and Mountains**
- ☐ **Georgia Depression**
- ☐ **Central Interior**
- ☐ **Sub-Boreal Interior**
- ☐ **Southern Interior Mountains**
- ☐ **Southern Interior**

- ☐ **Taiga Plains**
- ☐ **Northern Boreal Mountains**
- ☐ **Northeast Pacific**

Fish features will be evaluated on a watershed basis within the ecoprovince. The categories of fish and wildlife special features which will be considered by the Ministry of Parks for inclusion within the park system include:

- **special habitats** — unique, important or threatened habitats. Example: grizzly bear habitat in Tweedsmuir Park.
- **species systems** — some ecologically significant species systems are taxonomically related, such as wintering shorebird concentrations. Others are functional groupings of species, such as large-mammal predator/prey systems conserved in Spatsizi Park.
- **endangered species** — Endangered species are species that have been designated as endangered under provincial legislation, and are in danger of becoming extinct in the province. Example: White Pelican, White Pelican Park.
- **potentially endangered species** — species such as the Cascade Marbled Ground Squirrel in Cathedral Park, that are declining and may become endangered without management attention.
- **sensitive species** — These are species which are considered sensitive to human activities or whose population have declined significantly. Example: Woodland Caribou in Tweedsmuir Park.
- **species of management emphasis** — These are species which are currently secure within the province and are of particular interest to the public, such as hunted species or species popular with appreciative users. Example: Painted Turtle, Kikomun Park.

Cultural Features Group

Native Indian Cultural Features

Consideration should be given to including features related to different language groups and different aspects of heritage regarding pre-contact, contact and post-contact periods.

Archaeological Sites

- ☐ **Middens**
- ☐ **Kickwillee Holes** — Examples: Adams River, Roderick Haig-Brown Park.
- ☐ **Village Sites** — Example: Ninstints, South Moresby National Park Reserve
- ☐ **Legend Sites** — areas of importance to Indian religion and spirituality. Example: Tahltan Eagle, Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Park.

Rock Paintings and Markings

- ❑ **Pictographs** (rock paintings)
- ❑ **Petroglyphs** (rock carvings) — Example: Petroglyph Park.

Archaeological Routes

- ❑ **Grease Trails**

Historic Features

Consideration should be given to the different major eras such as: discovery; early exploration; fur trade period; early gold rushes; start of forest, mining, fisheries and agriculture industries; and early settlement.

- ❑ **Historic Sites** — areas related to early European exploration, settlement and pioneering. Examples: Mackenzie Rock, Sir Alexander Mackenzie Park; Cottonwood House Historic Park; Barkerville Park; Cape Scott Park; Fort Rodd Hill National Park; Newcastle Island Park; Alexandra Bridge Park; Fort McLeod Historic Park.
- ❑ **Historic Routes** — Example: the Mackenzie Trail.
- ❑ **Restorations** — Example: Barkerville Park.
- ❑ **Monuments** — modern markers, plaques and cairns associated with historic and cultural events. Example: Mackenzie Rock, Sir Alexander Mackenzie Park.
- ❑ **Historic Cultural Features** — features associated with early farming and cultivation; logging and silviculture; grazing and ranching; mining. Examples: Ruckle Park, Barkerville Park, Ray Farm, Wells Gray Park.

Modern Cultural Features

In some cases, man-made structures may be included within a park as a recreational, or educational feature. Examples of such features include light houses, reservoirs, bridges and trestles, tunnels, and portions of scenic highways.

Special Features Inventory

As part of the special-features project, a province-wide inventory of special features will be completed. The features identified in the Appendix are a initial step of this inventory. All identified special features will be mapped, and evaluated as to whether they are protected within provincial parks or by another agency or group. If a feature is not protected, it will be evaluated in terms of whether or not it is appropriate for inclusion within the park system.

Sources that will be used for this inventory include:

- Canada Land Inventory Recreation Capability maps completed between 1965 and 1972 for most of southern, central and northeastern portions of the province;
- selected BC Parks documents and recreation feature inventories;
- input from BC Parks' regional planners and headquarters staff;
- non-government organizations;
- other federal and provincial agencies to determine what special features have been identified that are of interest to BC Parks and to determine which features are already protected;
- interested individuals;
- other sources as listed in the bibliography.

Special Features for BC Parks

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Special Features for BC Parks

Appendix

Preliminary Inventory and Map of Special Features

A preliminary significance ranking has been used to segregate the various special features into two groups:

- Features considered to be of provincial to international significance have been designated as "OUTSTANDING."
- Features considered to be of regional to provincial significance have been designated as "IMPORTANT."

On the map which accompanies this report, OUTSTANDING features are shown as large dots, while IMPORTANT features are depicted by small dots.

NOTE: Through the inventory process, it became clear that in some cases the close proximity of a number of individual features created areas or corridors of special features. These have been identified in the list or on the map as corridors or areas.

1. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Cape Scott — beaches, marine shore, marine life, historic features.
2. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Bull Harbour — beaches, marine shores.
3. IMPORTANT: Winter Harbour — anchorage and beach
4. IMPORTANT: Beaver Harbour — beach, anchorage, and historic site
5. OUTSTANDING AREA: Quatsino Sound — protected waters
6. OUTSTANDING: Lawn Point — beaches and marine shores
7. IMPORTANT: Port McNeill — anchorage and beach
8. IMPORTANT: Johnson Lagoon
9. OUTSTANDING AREA: Brooks Peninsula — refugeum, tors, old-growth spruce, marine shores
10. OUTSTANDING: Blackfish Sound — killer whales, sea life.
11. OUTSTANDING: Robson Bight — killer whales
12. OUTSTANDING AREA: Tahsish Watershed — estuary, elk, old-growth, caves, anadromous fishery
13. OUTSTANDING: Bunsby Island — wildlife (sea otters, seals, sea birds)
14. OUTSTANDING: Kyuoquot — anchorage
15. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Kyuoquot-Esperanza — beaches and marine shores
16. OUTSTANDING: Nuchatlitz Inlet — beaches and archaeologic site
17. OUTSTANDING: Tahsis Mtn. — karst, caves
18. OUTSTANDING: Nimpkish Island — giant firs

19. OUTSTANDING AREA: Johnstone Strait — extensive protected waters
20. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Nootka Island — beaches and marine shores
21. OUTSTANDING: Yuquot — anchorage and historic site
22. OUTSTANDING: Nootka — Historic
23. OUTSTANDING AREA: Nootka Sound — protected waters
24. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Hesquiat — beaches and marine shores
25. OUTSTANDING: Estevan Point Light House — historic site
26. OUTSTANDING: Hesquiat Harbour — anchorage
27. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Hesquiat Harbour — marine shores and beaches
28. OUTSTANDING: Hotsprings Cove — hotspring and anchorage
29. OUTSTANDING: Pierce Range — karst, caves
30. OUTSTANDING: Elk River — deer and elk
31. IMPORTANT: Lady Falls
32. OUTSTANDING: Seymour Narrows — tide rips
33. IMPORTANT: Elk River — falls
34. OUTSTANDING: Wolf River — large trees
35. OUTSTANDING: Golden Hinde — highest peak on Vancouver Island
36. IMPORTANT: Strathcona Park — wildflowers
37. IMPORTANT: Karst Creek — karst formations
38. OUTSTANDING: Forbidden Plateau — sub-alpine and alpine
39. OUTSTANDING: Puntledge River — large firs
40. OUTSTANDING: Della Falls
41. OUTSTANDING AREA: Clayoquot Sound — protected waters
42. OUTSTANDING: Gibson — anchorage
43. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Flores Island — beaches and marine shore
44. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Vargas Island — beaches and marine shore
45. OUTSTANDING: Frank Island — tombolo
46. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Long Beach — beach and marine shore
47. OUTSTANDING: Long Beach — sea mammals, whales, sea birds
48. IMPORTANT: Kennedy Lake — largest on Vancouver Island
49. OUTSTANDING: Clayoquot Plateau — Caves

50. IMPORTANT: Miracle Beach
51. OUTSTANDING: Comox Harbour — estuary and sea birds
52. IMPORTANT: Cape Lazo — sea cliffs
53. IMPORTANT: Sandy Island — spit and beaches
54. IMPORTANT: Denman Island — Komos sea cliffs
55. OUTSTANDING: Tribune Bay — beach, rock formations, Gary Oak
56. OUTSTANDING: Horne Lake Caves
57. IMPORTANT: Stamp Falls
58. OUTSTANDING: Cathedral Grove (MacMillan Park)
59. OUTSTANDING AREA: Barkley Sound/Alberni Inlet — protected waters
60. OUTSTANDING AREA: Bamfield — anchorage, beaches, historic sites, (Trans Pacific cable terminal)
61. IMPORTANT: West Coast Trail
62. IMPORTANT: Clo-oose Community
63. OUTSTANDING: Carmanah — Spruce
64. OUTSTANDING: Nitinat Lake — tidal, sail boarding
65. IMPORTANT: Englishman River — falls
66. OUTSTANDING: Qualicum to Craig Bay — beaches
67. OUTSTANDING: Rath Trevor — spring herring concentrations
68. IMPORTANT: Newcastle Island — coal deposits and historic features
69. OUTSTANDING: Valdes Island — sandstone galleries
70. IMPORTANT: Porlier Pass — rip tides and marine life
71. IMPORTANT: Coon Bay tombolo and intertidal life
72. IMPORTANT: Walker Hook — tombolo, beach
73. IMPORTANT: Active Pass — rip tides and marine life
74. IMPORTANT: Somenos Lake — birds
75. IMPORTANT: Cowichan River — fish variety, recreational river
76. IMPORTANT: Port Renfrew — large fir at Red Creek
77. OUTSTANDING: Botanical Beach — intertidal life and tide pools
78. IMPORTANT: China Beach — old growth
79. IMPORTANT: Leach River fault
80. OUTSTANDING: Goldstream — salmon run
81. IMPORTANT: Mt. Finlayson — roche moutonnee
82. OUTSTANDING: Saanich Inlet — fiord

83. OUTSTANDING AREA: Gulf Islands — protected waterways
84. OUTSTANDING: Sidney Island — spit and lagoon
85. IMPORTANT: Dominion Observatory
86. IMPORTANT: Witty's Lagoon
87. IMPORTANT: Fort Rodd Hill — historic
88. IMPORTANT: Colwood glacial delta
89. OUTSTANDING AREA: Fraser Delta/Boundary Bay — internationally significant migrating birds, intertidal life
- 89A. IMPORTANT: Point Grey — sea cliffs
90. OUTSTANDING: Burns Bog
91. OUTSTANDING: Fort Langley — historic
92. OUTSTANDING: Widgeon/Pitt — wetlands, wildlife
93. IMPORTANT: Pitt Lake — semi-tidal
94. OUTSTANDING: Chehalis/Harrison — salmon runs, eagles, wetland, wildlife
95. OUTSTANDING: Harrison Hotsprings
96. IMPORTANT: Ghost orchids
97. IMPORTANT: Doctors Point — pictographs
98. IMPORTANT: Douglas Historic
99. OUTSTANDING AREA: Garibaldi Park — volcanic features, alpine, glaciers
100. IMPORTANT: Chaos Glacier
101. IMPORTANT: Brandywine River — falls
102. IMPORTANT: Brandywine — basalt columns
103. OUTSTANDING: Black Tusk — volcanic plug and alpine
104. IMPORTANT: Barrier — cliff and lava
105. OUTSTANDING: Squamish-Cheakamus — salmon runs, eagles
106. OUTSTANDING: Squamish Chief — igneous rocks
107. OUTSTANDING: Squamish River — estuary and sea birds
108. IMPORTANT: Howe Sound — fiord, diving areas
109. OUTSTANDING: Pender Harbour — anchorage
110. OUTSTANDING: Skookumchuck — tidal rapids
111. OUTSTANDING: Phantom Lake — alpine and falls
112. OUTSTANDING: Savary Island — sands and sea cliffs
113. OUTSTANDING: Princess Louisa — tide rips and anchorage
114. IMPORTANT: Nairn Falls

115. IMPORTANT: Tenquille-Owl Lakes — sub-alpine
116. IMPORTANT: Meager Creek — geothermal features
117. OUTSTANDING: Lillooet River Falls
118. IMPORTANT: Lillooet Glacier
119. IMPORTANT: Bridge Glacier
120. IMPORTANT: Lord River Falls
121. IMPORTANT: Tchaikazan Falls
122. IMPORTANT: Taseko Lakes — landscapes
123. IMPORTANT: Cardiff Mountain — columnar basalts
124. OUTSTANDING: Potato Range — Alpine
125. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Chilko Lake — outstanding landscape features, rock dikes run into lake
126. IMPORTANT: Bishop River — glacier views
127. IMPORTANT: Tahumming Glacier — views
128. IMPORTANT: Southgate River — falls and cliffs
129. IMPORTANT: Homathko River — estuary
130. IMPORTANT AREA: Morley/Homathko — glacier features
131. OUTSTANDING: Mt. Waddington — highest mountain entirely in BC
132. IMPORTANT: Klinaklini glacier views
133. IMPORTANT: Klinaklini River — estuary
134. IMPORTANT: Cape Caution — beaches and open ocean
135. IMPORTANT: Goose Bay — anchorage and intertidal zone
136. IMPORTANT: Nekite River — estuary
137. IMPORTANT: Owikeno Lake — largest semi-tidal lake in B.C.
138. OUTSTANDING: Kilbella River — estuary and anchorage
139. IMPORTANT: Clyak River — estuary
140. IMPORTANT: Safety Cove — anchorage
141. OUTSTANDING: Calvert Island — beaches, anchorage, tombolos
142. OUTSTANDING: Hakai Pass — salmon
143. IMPORTANT: Hakai area — archaeologic sites
144. OUTSTANDING: Koeve River — anchorage and estuary
145. OUTSTANDING: Nootum River — estuary and anchorage
146. IMPORTANT: Burke Channel — tide rips

147. **IMPORTANT:** Kildidt — lagoon and reversing rapids
148. **OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR:** Chilko/Chilcotin River — superior rafting corridor, numerous canyons, water colour
149. **IMPORTANT:** Riske Creek — historic
150. **OUTSTANDING:** Farwell Canyon
151. **IMPORTANT:** Big Creek — falls
152. **OUTSTANDING:** Junction — mountain sheep and dry land vegetation, deer, birds, raptors
153. **IMPORTANT:** Gang Ranch — historic
154. **OUTSTANDING AREA:** Southern Chilcotin Wilderness — extensive alpine, wilderness and wildlife features
155. **OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR:** Fraser Canyon
156. **OUTSTANDING:** Watson Bar Bluffs
157. **IMPORTANT:** 100 Mile House — historic
158. **OUTSTANDING:** Chasm Creek Canyon
159. **IMPORTANT:** Pavilion — historic
160. **IMPORTANT:** Marble Canyon
161. **IMPORTANT:** Jade-Yalakom area
162. **OUTSTANDING:** Bridge River — Indian fishery, salmon runs
163. **OUTSTANDING:** Lillooet — historic and archaeological features
164. **IMPORTANT:** Cache Creek — grasslands
165. **IMPORTANT:** Nicoamen River — falls
166. **IMPORTANT:** Botanie Valley — wildflowers
167. **OUTSTANDING:** Lytton — very old Indian site, contrasting river colours meet
168. **IMPORTANT:** Stein River — archaeological features, alluvial vegetation
169. **IMPORTANT:** Kwoiek Mtn. area — alpine and distinctive peaks
170. **OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR:** Fraser/ Thompson Rivers — fish runs, archaeological sites, historic routes and features, canyons, river rafting, scenic corridors, gold panning
171. **OUTSTANDING:** Hells Gate — fish ladder
172. **IMPORTANT:** Old Alexandria Bridge
173. **OUTSTANDING:** Yale — historic
174. **OUTSTANDING:** Hope slide
175. **IMPORTANT:** Sumallo Grove — large trees
176. **IMPORTANT:** Manning Park — marmots
177. **IMPORTANT:** Mt. Blackwall — wildflowers

178. IMPORTANT: Lakeview Mtn. — alpine sheep and goat
179. OUTSTANDING: Kilpoola Lake area — sagebrush landscape
180. OUTSTANDING: Osoyoos Indian Reserve — desert landscape
181. OUTSTANDING: Spotted Lake
182. IMPORTANT: Osoyoos Oxbows — birds
183. IMPORTANT: Keremeos — roadside mountain goats
184. IMPORTANT: Hedley/Nickel Plate — historic
185. IMPORTANT: White Lake — radio telescope
186. OUTSTANDING: White Lake — "desert" life forms
187. OUTSTANDING: Vaseux Lake — sheep, "desert" life forms
188. IMPORTANT: Okanagan-Skaha Lakes — beaches
189. IMPORTANT: Glacio-Lacustrine cliffs — near Penticton
190. IMPORTANT: Mission Creek Canyon
191. OUTSTANDING: Pennask Lake trophy trout
192. IMPORTANT: Kalamalka Lake — colour
193. IMPORTANT: Cosens Bay — beach
194. IMPORTANT: Chapperton Lake — birds
195. OUTSTANDING: Douglas Lake to Kamloops — grasslands
196. IMPORTANT: Meadow Creek — moose
197. IMPORTANT: Cherry Creek — roche moutonnee
198. IMPORTANT: Walhachin — sand dunes
199. IMPORTANT: Deadman Creek — rock formations, rock hounding
200. OUTSTANDING: Tranquille — Wildlife and grasslands (deer, sheep, birds, reptiles)
201. IMPORTANT: South Thompson — Glacio-lacustrine cliffs
202. IMPORTANT: Chase — sheep herd
203. OUTSTANDING: Adams River — sockeye run, kickwillie holes
204. IMPORTANT: Salmon Arm — beach
205. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Shuswap Lake/South Thompson River/Shuswap River — boating corridor, beaches
206. IMPORTANT: Green Lake — water colour
207. IMPORTANT: Canim Falls
208. IMPORTANT: Mahood Falls
209. OUTSTANDING: Helmcken Falls and canyon

210. IMPORTANT: Dawson Falls
211. OUTSTANDING: Spahats Falls and canyon
212. IMPORTANT: Wells Gray Park — alpine
213. IMPORTANT: Trophy Mountain — wildflowers
214. IMPORTANT: Goldstream River — falls
215. IMPORTANT: Northeast of Seymour Arm — alpine tarns
216. IMPORTANT: West of Revelstoke National Park — falls
217. IMPORTANT: Mt. Revelstoke — wildflowers
218. IMPORTANT: Mt. Begbie — alpine
219. IMPORTANT: Monashee Park — alpine
220. IMPORTANT: Hamling Lakes — alpine
221. OUTSTANDING: Lardeau River — fish runs
222. OUTSTANDING: Ainsworth Hotsprings
223. IMPORTANT: Christina Lake — deer, sheep
224. OUTSTANDING: Creston Flats — wetlands and wildlife
225. OUTSTANDING: Tobacco Plains — grassland
226. OUTSTANDING: Kishinena Ridge — alpine
227. OUTSTANDING: Wigwam Flats — wildlife (moose, deer, elk, sheep)
228. OUTSTANDING: Andy Good peak area — Gargantua Cave (largest chamber in BC)
229. IMPORTANT: Bull River Canyon
230. OUTSTANDING: Fort Steele — historic
231. IMPORTANT: St. Mary's Prairie — grasslands
232. IMPORTANT: Top of the World — alpine
233. OUTSTANDING: Premier Ridge — wildlife deer, elk, caribou, sheep
234. IMPORTANT: St. Mary's — alpine, fossils
235. OUTSTANDING: Lake of Hanging Glacier — cirque lake, glacier, hanging valley
236. OUTSTANDING: Dutch Creek — hoodoos
237. OUTSTANDING: Fairmont Hotsprings
238. IMPORTANT: Palliser River — canyon and falls
239. OUTSTANDING AREA: Height of Rockies — dramatic landscapes, alpine and tarns, rock formations, bear, moose, deer, elk, sheep, goat, wolf

240. IMPORTANT: Cross River — canyon
241. OUTSTANDING: Wilmer Slough — deer, elk, sheep, birds
242. IMPORTANT: Forester Creek — falls and canyon
243. OUTSTANDING: Radium Hotsprings
244. OUTSTANDING: Assiniboine — horn peak, wildflowers, fossils, alpine
245. OUTSTANDING: Bugaboo Spire — Nunatuck
246. IMPORTANT: Conrad Icefield
247. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Columbia River — leveed flood plain, moose, deer, birds, wetlands
248. IMPORTANT: Canyon Creek — canyon
249. OUTSTANDING: Nakimu Cave — believed to be longest in B.C.
250. IMPORTANT: Blaeberry R. — falls and canyon
251. OUTSTANDING: Snow Dome — continental divide between Arctic, Pacific and Hudson Bay drainage
252. OUTSTANDING: Head of Cummins River — high falls drain glacier
253. IMPORTANT CORRIDOR: Fortress Lake — superior mountain views, glaciers, waterfalls
254. IMPORTANT: Tonguin Creek — alpine and mountain viewing
255. IMPORTANT: Cranberry Marsh — wildlife viewing (moose, furbearers, birds)
256. IMPORTANT: Fraser River — rapids
257. IMPORTANT AREA: Robson Highlands — superior mountain viewing
258. OUTSTANDING: Mount Robson (highest in Rockies)
259. OUTSTANDING: Arctomys Caves, believed to be deepest in B.C.
260. OUTSTANDING: Holliday Creek area — rock arch
261. IMPORTANT: Mt. Sir Alexander — glaciers, rock formations
262. OUTSTANDING: Kakwa Lake — water colour, quartzite bedding, fossils, karst terrain
263. OUTSTANDING: Mount Ida — horn
264. IMPORTANT CORRIDOR: Narrowan Falls and Gray Pass Alpine
265. OUTSTANDING: Hendrick Lake Area — Dezaiko-fang caves (up to 300 metres deep)
266. IMPORTANT: Arctic-Pacific Lakes — Arctic/Pacific divide, also on Mackenzie's route

267. IMPORTANT: Limestone Lakes — Limestone Cliffs, possible underground drainage
268. IMPORTANT AREA: Monkman Pass — alpine lakes and viewing
269. IMPORTANT: Wapiti Lake — fossil bed
270. OUTSTANDING: Kinuseo Falls
271. IMPORTANT: Misinchinka River — Bijoux Falls
272. IMPORTANT: Upper Burnt River — karst and falls
273. IMPORTANT: Fossils (near Pine pass)
274. IMPORTANT: Mount Lemoray — karst and alpine
275. IMPORTANT: Sukunka Falls
276. IMPORTANT: Swan Lake — wildlife (furbearers, birds)
277. OUTSTANDING: Rolla area — dinosaur bones and fossils reported
278. OUTSTANDING: Peace Canyon — rock walls and dinosaur fossils
279. IMPORTANT: Mount Bocock — karst
280. IMPORTANT: NW of Germansen Landing — jade deposits
281. IMPORTANT: Nation River — falls
282. IMPORTANT: Fort McLeod — historic site
283. IMPORTANT: Carp Lake Hotspring
284. IMPORTANT: Carp Lake — lake and glacio-fluvial features
285. OUTSTANDING: Salmon River tributary — superior eskers
286. IMPORTANT: Crooked River — wildlife viewing (moose, birds, furbearers)
287. IMPORTANT: Bear Lake — sand dunes
288. OUTSTANDING AREA: Drumlins, eskers, other glacial features
289. OUTSTANDING: Fort George — historic site
290. IMPORTANT: Fort George — canyon
291. IMPORTANT: Cottonwood River Canyon
292. IMPORTANT: Cottonwood House — historic site
293. OUTSTANDING: Barkerville — historic site
294. IMPORTANT: Bowron Slough — wildlife viewing (bear, moose, furbearers, raptors)
295. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Bowron Lake — canoe trip
296. IMPORTANT: Caribou River — falls
297. IMPORTANT: Matthew River — falls, viewing, coniferous vegetation

298. IMPORTANT: Ghost Lake — falls, rock formations
299. IMPORTANT: Upper Caribou River — glacier viewing
300. IMPORTANT: Upper Niagara River — glacier viewing
301. IMPORTANT: Mt. Quanstrom — glacier viewing
302. IMPORTANT AREA: Premier Range — mountains, glaciers, rock formations, waterfalls
303. IMPORTANT: Lower Blue River — coldsprings
304. IMPORTANT: Majerus Falls
305. IMPORTANT: Flourmills — volcanic features
306. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Wells Gray lakes & rivers — viewing, angling, boating, waterfalls
307. IMPORTANT: Sundt Falls
308. IMPORTANT: Niagara River — Niagara Falls
309. IMPORTANT: Niagara River — Mid-Niagara falls
310. IMPORTANT: Horsefly River — falls
311. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Quesnel Lake — superior angling, boating, viewing, historic and archaeological features
312. IMPORTANT: Moffatt Creek — falls
313. IMPORTANT: Keithly Creek — historic site
314. IMPORTANT: Yanks Peak — historic route and alpine flowers
315. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Quesnel Forks to Likely — gold rush history, superior angling and fish run viewing
316. IMPORTANT: 150 Mile House — historic site
317. IMPORTANT: Chimney Creek — kickwillee holes
318. IMPORTANT: near Castle Rock — archaeological site
319. IMPORTANT: Alexandria — historic site
320. OUTSTANDING: Stum Lake — White Pelican colony
321. IMPORTANT: Alexis Creek — kickwillee holes
322. IMPORTANT: Bull Canyon — rock formations, archaeological features
323. OUTSTANDING: Chilcotin River — superior rafting and fishing
324. IMPORTANT: Chilanko Marsh — wildlife viewing (moose, deer, wolves, small mammals, birds)
325. IMPORTANT: Nazko Falls
326. IMPORTANT: Fishpot Lake — archaeological site
327. IMPORTANT: Blackwater River — falls

328. IMPORTANT: Titetown Lake — kettles (also on Mackenzie Trail)
329. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Mackenzie Trail
330. IMPORTANT: Cheslatta Falls
331. IMPORTANT: Fraser Lake — two warm water beaches
332. IMPORTANT: Nautley River — fish viewing
333. OUTSTANDING: Fort Fraser historic site
334. IMPORTANT: Stuart Lake — Parrens beach (warmwater beaches)
335. OUTSTANDING: Fort St. James historic site
336. IMPORTANT CORRIDOR: Takla/Trembleur/Stuart Lakes — boating route
337. IMPORTANT: Fulton River — falls and fish run viewing
338. IMPORTANT: Old Fort (Babine) historic site
339. IMPORTANT: Babine River — fish run viewing
340. IMPORTANT: Takla Landing — HBC Trading Post
341. IMPORTANT: Bulkley House — historic site
342. IMPORTANT: Nilkitkwa headwaters — superior alpine, viewing glaciers
343. IMPORTANT: Kuldo — Indian village
344. IMPORTANT: Kisegas — Indian village
345. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Kispiox River — large steelhead
346. OUTSTANDING: Kispiox — Indian village and totems
347. OUTSTANDING: Hazelton/Haqwilet — 4000 years of Indian habitation, Ksan
348. IMPORTANT: Haqwilet and Bulkley Canyons
349. OUTSTANDING: Kitwancool — Totem Poles
350. IMPORTANT: Kloutch Canyon — old river boat ring bolts
351. IMPORTANT: Cedarvale — Indian community
352. IMPORTANT: Seven Sisters — rock spires and glaciers
353. IMPORTANT: Kitwanga — Indian community
354. IMPORTANT: Kitsequecla — old Indian village site
355. OUTSTANDING: Moricetown — Indian fishery, view salmon runs
356. IMPORTANT: Hudson Bay Mountain — landmark
357. OUTSTANDING: Driftwood Canyon — fossil bed
358. IMPORTANT AREA: Telkwa Mtns. — wildlife (goat, caribou)

359. OUTSTANDING AREA: Burnie Lks. — superior alpine plateau
360. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Bulkley-Morice — superior salmon fishery and boating
361. IMPORTANT: Nadina Mtn. distinctive landmark
362. IMPORTANT: Nadina River wildlife (moose, wolf)
363. IMPORTANT: Opals — near Burns Lake
364. OUTSTANDING AREA: Quanchus Range — wildlife (caribou) and alpine meadows
365. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Eutsuk/Ootsa Lakes — boat route
366. OUTSTANDING AREA: Ilgachuz Range — wildlife (bear, caribou, sheep, wolf) and shield volcanics
367. OUTSTANDING: Far Mountain — columnar basalts
368. OUTSTANDING: Anahim Peak — obsidian quarries
369. OUTSTANDING: Rainbow Range — coloured rock, volcanic landforms, alpine, wildlife (caribou)
370. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Atnarko River — wildlife (bears, raptors) and fish runs
371. OUTSTANDING: Hunlen Falls — 300 metres high
372. IMPORTANT: Tatchako Glacier — views
373. IMPORTANT: Ape Lake — self dumping
374. OUTSTANDING: Taleomey Estuary
375. IMPORTANT: Tallheo Hotspring
376. IMPORTANT: North and South Bentinck Arms — contrasting water colours
377. OUTSTANDING: Bella Coola River — estuary
378. OUTSTANDING: Thorsen Creek Petroglyphs
379. OUTSTANDING: Bella Coola Valley — igneous rocks and U-shaped valley
380. OUTSTANDING: Dean River — "world class" salmon and steelhead
381. OUTSTANDING: Dean River — estuary
382. IMPORTANT: Kimsquit River — estuary
383. IMPORTANT: Skowquiltz River — estuary
384. IMPORTANT: Nascall Hotspring
385. IMPORTANT: Eucott Bay — hotspring and anchorage
386. OUTSTANDING: Mackenzie Historic Monument, Sir Alexander Mackenzie Park
387. OUTSTANDING: Dean Channel — "longest" fiord in BC"

388. OUTSTANDING: Kwatna River — estuary and anchorage
389. IMPORTANT: Restoration Bay — historic (Capt. Vancouver)
390. IMPORTANT: Port John — Pictographs
391. OUTSTANDING: Bella Bella — Indian Community and fish traps
392. OUTSTANDING: Anthony Island — Ninstints World Heritage Site
393. OUTSTANDING: Dolomite Narrows — intertidal life and aquatic foods
394. OUTSTANDING AREA: South Moresby — wildlife (sea birds, sea mammals, raptors, etc.)
395. OUTSTANDING: Lyell Island — old-growth spruce forests
396. OUTSTANDING: Cumshewa Inlet — significant kelp beds
397. OUTSTANDING: Skidegate Channel — important intertidal zones
398. IMPORTANT: Tlell estuary
399. IMPORTANT: Golden Spruce
400. OUTSTANDING: Masset Inlet — estuaries, intertidal life
401. OUTSTANDING: Tow Hill — legend site and distinctive land form (columnar basalt)
402. OUTSTANDING: Rose Spit — wildlife
403. OUTSTANDING: Rose Spit — spit, beaches, sand dunes
404. OUTSTANDING AREA: Wright Passage area — numerous sea bird rookeries
405. IMPORTANT: Aristazabal Island — Kermode bears
406. OUTSTANDING: Kitasu Bay — anchorage
407. IMPORTANT: Kitasu Hill — volcanic cone
408. IMPORTANT: Ellerslie Lake — estuary, tides, falls, angling
409. OUTSTANDING: Culpepper Lagoon
410. OUTSTANDING: Kynoch Inlet — fiord
411. OUTSTANDING: Mussel Inlet — fiord
412. OUTSTANDING: Mussel Inlet head — igneous rocks
413. IMPORTANT: Green Lagoon — estuary and tides
414. IMPORTANT: Princess Royal Island — Kermode bears
415. OUTSTANDING: Campania Island — beaches
416. OUTSTANDING: Barnard Harbour — anchorage
417. OUTSTANDING: Khutze Inlet — estuary and anchorage
418. IMPORTANT: Klekane Inlet — estuary and hotspring

419. OUTSTANDING: Curlew Bay — beach, anchorage and intertidal zone
420. OUTSTANDING: Goat Harbour — estuary, anchorage, hot spring
421. OUTSTANDING: Bishop Bay — hot springs and anchorage
422. OUTSTANDING: Kiltuish — estuary
423. OUTSTANDING: Kowesas — estuary
424. IMPORTANT: Kemano — igneous Rocks
425. IMPORTANT: Kemano Bay — anchorage, fish runs, wildlife
426. IMPORTANT: Brim River — estuary and hot spring
427. IMPORTANT: south of Douglas Channel — Shearwater Hot spring
428. IMPORTANT: south of Douglas Channel — Weewanie Hot spring
429. IMPORTANT: Kitimat Indian community
430. OUTSTANDING: Kitimat Estuary
431. IMPORTANT: Foch Lagoon and tidal estuary
432. IMPORTANT: Quaal River — wetlands
433. OUTSTANDING: Kitkiata Inlet — estuary and anchorage
434. IMPORTANT: Klewnuggit — anchorage
435. IMPORTANT: Anger and Pitt Island — faults
436. OUTSTANDING: Bonilla Island — bird rookeries and sea mammals
437. OUTSTANDING: Kumealon Bay — anchorage and estuary
438. IMPORTANT: Oval Bay Beach
439. IMPORTANT: Smith Island, south of Prince Rupert — North Pacific Cannery (oldest on north coast)
440. OUTSTANDING AREA: Skeena River — estuary
441. OUTSTANDING AREA: Gitnadoix — salmon run, wildlife diversity, scenic features
442. OUTSTANDING: Between Terrace and Kitimat — Lakelse Hot springs
443. OUTSTANDING: Kitselas Canyon — numerous archaeological features
444. OUTSTANDING: Lucy Island — rookery
445. IMPORTANT: Prince Leboo Island — seals
446. OUTSTANDING: Big Bay — estuary and anchorage
447. OUTSTANDING: Port Simpson — historic fort (1834)
448. OUTSTANDING: Crow Lagoon and volcano
449. OUTSTANDING: Khutzeymateen — estuary and grizzly bears

450. IMPORTANT: Fort Simpson — historic — first site (1832)
451. IMPORTANT: Greenville — Indian village
452. IMPORTANT CORRIDOR: Nass River — grease trail
453. OUTSTANDING: Tseax — volcanic cone
454. OUTSTANDING: Tseax — lava flow
455. IMPORTANT: Aiyansh — Indian community
456. IMPORTANT: Grease Harbour — Indian community
457. IMPORTANT: Kitsault/Illiance River- estuary
458. IMPORTANT: Alice Arm — historic features
459. IMPORTANT: Anyox — abandoned mine
460. IMPORTANT: Cambrio Icefields and Nunatucks
461. IMPORTANT: Bear River — estuary
462. IMPORTANT: Stewart — historic features
463. IMPORTANT: Bear River — U-shaped valley
464. IMPORTANT: Bear Pass — only road-side glacier in BC
465. IMPORTANT: Bear Pass — large avalanche tracks
466. IMPORTANT: Meziadin River — salmon run viewing
467. IMPORTANT: Hanna/Tintina — bear viewing
468. IMPORTANT: Unuk River — youngest lava flows in BC (200 years old)
469. OUTSTANDING: Hoodoo Mountain — outstanding cliffs, volcanics, hoodoo-like formations
470. IMPORTANT: Great Glacier — large ice tongue
471. OUTSTANDING: Kates Needle — nunatak
472. IMPORTANT: Flood Lake — self dumping
473. IMPORTANT: Tulsequah Lake — self dumping when ice melts
474. OUTSTANDING: Nakina Canyon — 1200-metre limestone cliffs and waterfalls
475. IMPORTANT AREA: Llewellyn — glacier, nunatak and icefields
476. OUTSTANDING: Mount Fairweather — highest point and greatest topographic relief in B.C.
477. OUTSTANDING: Tarr Inlet — only tidewater glacier in B.C.
478. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Tatshenshini River — outstanding rafting, viewing, landscapes

479. **OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR:** Haines Highway — outstanding wildlife and landscape viewing (bear, moose, sheep, caribou, raptors)
480. **IMPORTANT:** Bennett Lake — part of Chilkoot Pass Route
481. **IMPORTANT:** Mount Minto — distinctive topographic feature
482. **IMPORTANT:** west side Atlin Lake — "shortest" railway
483. **IMPORTANT:** Atlin Mountain — rock glaciers
484. **IMPORTANT:** Atlin — historic features
485. **IMPORTANT CORRIDOR:** Swift River
486. **OUTSTANDING:** Klinkit Lake — Tuya
487. **IMPORTANT:** Jennings Lakes — drowned esker complex
488. **IMPORTANT:** Blue River — mineral springs and tufa deposit
489. **IMPORTANT:** Liard eskers
490. **IMPORTANT:** Boya Lake — distinctive water colour and eskers
491. **IMPORTANT:** Vines Lake and Needle Peak — scenic
492. **OUTSTANDING:** Tuya Lake — tuya feature
493. **IMPORTANT CORRIDOR:** Dease River — boating, historic
494. **IMPORTANT:** Beale Lake — kettle hole
495. **IMPORTANT:** Laketon — historic site
496. **IMPORTANT:** Dease Lake — gold rush history
497. **IMPORTANT:** Snow Peak — volcano
498. **IMPORTANT:** Level Mountain — shield volcano and wildlife viewing
499. **IMPORTANT CORRIDOR:** Tanzilla River — kayaking and viewing
500. **OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR:** Grand Canyon of the Stikine and Tuya Canyon
501. **OUTSTANDING:** Tahltan Eagle legend site
502. **OUTSTANDING:** Edziza Park — wildlife viewing (bear, moose, sheep, wolves, raptors, game birds)
503. **IMPORTANT:** Edziza Mineral Spring
504. **OUTSTANDING:** Mt. Edziza — volcanics and cones
505. **OUTSTANDING:** Mt. Edziza Park — obsidian deposits and Indian use
506. **OUTSTANDING:** Spectrum Range — outstanding colours
507. **IMPORTANT:** Telegraph Trail

508. IMPORTANT: Castle Rock — small volcanic plug
509. IMPORTANT: Mt. Klappan coal deposits
510. IMPORTANT: Spatsizi Plateau — dikes
511. OUTSTANDING: Spatsizi Plateau — alpine terrain and wildlife viewing (bear, moose, caribou, sheep, goat, wolves, raptors, game birds)
512. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Stikine and Spatsizi Rivers — boating corridors
513. IMPORTANT: Johiah and Obo Lakes area — most remote location in B.C. — 150 km to nearest road
514. OUTSTANDING AREA: Northeast Rockies — wildlife viewing (bear, moose, elk, caribou, sheep, goat, wolf, game birds)
515. IMPORTANT: Bat Creek — rock formations
516. OUTSTANDING AREA: Besa-Nevis — wildlife viewing and numerous game licks
517. IMPORTANT: Redfern Lake — water colour
518. IMPORTANT: Sikanni River — falls
519. IMPORTANT: Ospika Cones — volcanics, cones, mineral springs
520. IMPORTANT: Christina Falls — (25 meters +)
521. IMPORTANT: Hudson Hope — historic site (formerly Rocky Mountain House)
522. IMPORTANT: Attachie Slide
523. IMPORTANT: Fort St. John — historic site
524. IMPORTANT: Peace River — attractive landscapes, boating corridor, Pleistocene bones
525. IMPORTANT: Boundary Lake — wildlife viewing (bear, moose, deer, wolf, furbearers, birds)
526. IMPORTANT: Cecil Lake — waterfowl
527. IMPORTANT AREA: Klua Lakes — cuesta topography
528. IMPORTANT: Old Fort Nelson — historic site
529. IMPORTANT AREA: Steamboat Mountain — rock pillars and rock formations
530. OUTSTANDING: Wokkash Hoodoos
531. OUTSTANDING: Forlorn Gorge
532. IMPORTANT: Folding Mountain — layered rock
533. IMPORTANT: Muncho Lake — huge fans
534. IMPORTANT: Muncho Park — wildlife viewing (caribou, sheep)
535. OUTSTANDING CORRIDOR: Kechika/Gataga Rivers — superb wilderness float trip, wildlife viewing

- 536. **IMPORTANT:** Whirlpool Canyon
and rapids
- 537. **IMPORTANT:** Smith River — falls
- 538. **OUTSTANDING:** Liard River
Hotsprings
- 539. **OUTSTANDING:** Grayling River
Hotsprings — "best" in Canada;
also tufa deposits and bats in caves